

## Board Approves Budget Priorities Based on Survey

The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors approved the recommended budget priorities to be used in the development of the FY 2022-23 budget.

The budget priorities were a result of the County's Community Engagement Plan to develop priorities for the budget based on public input and the results of a survey of adult residents of Sacramento County. View the full survey and results at [www.saccounty.gov/news/latest-news/Documents/Sacramento\\_County\\_Budget\\_Survey\\_Analysis.pdf](http://www.saccounty.gov/news/latest-news/Documents/Sacramento_County_Budget_Survey_Analysis.pdf).

The recommended priorities for the use of General Fund discretionary funds in the FY 2022-23 budget are:

1. Complying with the County's legal, financial, regulatory and policy obligations, including providing mandated services, ensuring collection of revenues, and complying with the General Reserves policy.
2. Maintaining existing service levels budgeted for County programs, improving effectiveness and efficiency where possible and limiting the extent to which reductions in

categorical revenue are backfilled with discretionary resources.

3. Funding new or enhanced programs that focus on the most critical and urgent needs, with the following priority focus areas identified in a survey of County residents:
  - A Countywide focus area of addressing homelessness and its impacts, including housing, mental health and substance use
  - An unincorporated focus area of improving the condition of streets and roads

### Survey Methodology

FM3, the contractor conducting the survey, conducted the survey of adult residents of Sacramento County from Oct. 27 through Nov. 8, 2021. Surveys were conducted through telephone and online interviews with 1,153 respondents, compared to the target of 800 respondents, with a margin of sampling error of  $\pm 3.5$  percent at the 95 percent confidence level. The survey was available in 10 languages, including English.



### Survey Audience

Of the 1,153 respondents surveyed, residents were drawn from communities in proportion to the population, represented the County's adult population demographics by age and gender, and came from a mix of educational backgrounds and household income.

More than half of the respondents identified with a race or ethnicity other than white, and more than one-quarter indicated they speak a language other than English at home regularly.

More than two in five respondents personally experienced homelessness or knew someone who had, and more than

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#### Sacramento County Board of Supervisors

Phil Serna, *District 1*  
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Rich Desmond, *District 3*  
Sue Frost, *District 4*  
Don Nottoli, *District 5*

Ann Edwards, County Executive  
[www.saccounty.net](http://www.saccounty.net)  
700 H Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Produced by:  
**Sacramento County**  
**Public Information Office**  
Editor: Kim Nava ([navak@saccounty.net](mailto:navak@saccounty.net))



## 2020 Agricultural Report

The value of Sacramento County crops dipped slightly last year, but agriculture continues to be an important player in the local economy. In 2020, the total cash value of all agricultural commodities was almost \$455 million, according to the 2020 Sacramento County Crop and Livestock Report.

Wine grapes once again took the lead as the highest-valued commodity, with a value of close to \$156 million. More than 34 reported varieties are grown on 36,000 acres in Sacramento County.

Milk and other dairy products remained the County's second-highest valued commodity at \$64 million, an increase in value of 25 percent over 2019. About 16,000 dairy cows live on 16 family-owned dairies in Sacramento County. The County is even home to a water buffalo dairy that provides milk products to a creamery in the Bay Area.

Every year, the value of specific commodities rises or falls based on weather, supply and demand, and market forces. Notable increases in 2020 included cherries, whose cash value is up 82 percent over 2019 due to favorable spring weather conditions. Oat hay is up 69 percent over last year, and almonds increased 61 percent in value over the previous year's crop.

The 2020 value of agricultural commodities decreased 1.2 percent in comparison to 2019. This represents gross returns and not actual net profits or losses, according to Sacramento County Agricultural Commissioner Chris Flores.

"2020 was fraught with challenges and yet the gross production value of agriculture in Sacramento County remained relatively



stable," she said. "This is a testament to the resiliency and importance of this industry."

"We would like to honor and recognize our essential growers, ranchers, farmworkers and all others supportive of agriculture, who continued to produce and provide agricultural commodities locally and to people around the world."

### Top10 Agricultural Commodities in 2020

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Wine grapes  | 5. Pears  | 8. Rice                                   |
| 2. Milk   | 6. Hay (alfalfa)  | 9. Cattle and calves                      |
| 3. Poultry  | 7. Aquaculture (bass, carp, catfish, crayfish, sturgeon and caviar) | 10. Silage (corn grown to feed livestock) |
| 4. Nursery stock (ornamental trees and plants, Christmas trees and sod) |   |   |

The 2020 report includes a list of local Certified Farmer's Markets and a 2022 calendar with full-color illustrations, which can be viewed online at [agcomm.saccounty.net/Documents/CropandLivestockReports/2020Report.pdf](http://agcomm.saccounty.net/Documents/CropandLivestockReports/2020Report.pdf).

## Board Adopts Final District Map



The Board of Supervisors, at its Dec. 7 meeting, voted to adopt the Final Supervisorial District Map, which can be viewed at [redistricting2021.saccounty.gov](http://redistricting2021.saccounty.gov).

The Final Map is a result of the Board of Supervisors' direction on revisions to the

earlier draft maps presented at its Nov. 2, 16 and 17 Board meetings, as well as public input.

Geographic descriptions of each supervisorial district boundary are available at [redistricting2021.saccounty.gov](http://redistricting2021.saccounty.gov).

County residents can utilize the interactive map titled, "Final Supervisorial District Map" to view the new lines and see where they reside within them at [redistricting2021.saccounty.gov](http://redistricting2021.saccounty.gov).

Additionally, the County offers several district lookup tools and online maps at [www.saccounty.gov/Government/Pages/CountyInformationandMaps.aspx](http://www.saccounty.gov/Government/Pages/CountyInformationandMaps.aspx).

The public submitted more than 200 written comments containing suggestions for redistricting and supervisorial boundary lines. The public also submitted their own maps for consideration, either hand-drawn or drawn using the mapping tools available.

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## Board Approves Phase One ARPA Allocation Proposal

The Board of Supervisors approved the County Executive's proposal for how the County should spend the first \$150 million in funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The County Executive's recommendation for the following priority areas:

- » Homelessness and Housing: \$59 million (39 percent of allocation)
- » Health: \$19.8 million (13 percent of allocation)
- » Economic Response: \$19.8 million (13 percent of allocation)

In addition to the County Executive's recommendations, the Board of Supervisors authorized premium pay for eligible workers employed by Sacramento County who have performed essential work since the start of the public health emergency. The Essential Workers premium pay will cost \$11.4 million, or 8 percent of the County's ARPA allocation.

Additionally, the Board approved a \$5 million allocation for each of the five supervisorial districts, which accounts for \$25 million or 17 percent of the Phase One ARPA funding.

Finally, in order to minimize risk to the County, ensure a centralized grant management process, and track and assure program and fiscal integrity—with no impact to the County's General Fund—\$15 million, or 10 percent of funding will be set aside for program administration.



Examples of the types of investments in each of the categories:

- » **Housing and Homelessness:** Affordable housing, permanent supportive housing, rental assistance, outreach and support services for people experiencing homelessness, sanctioned encampments and community safety.
- » **Health:** COVID mitigation efforts, mental health services and programs, substance abuse treatment programs and services, meals for homebound seniors and access to healthcare for hardest-hit communities.
- » **Economic Response:** Direct assistance to small businesses and non-profit organizations in the unincorporated County, funding to Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to support businesses countywide, and grants to chambers of commerce and Property and Business Improvement Districts (PBIDs).

Staff will develop recommended projects within each of the priority areas and, based

on projects approved by the Board, will announce a launch of a solicitation of proposals for any external use of funds at a later date. The process will follow County guidelines with stipulations in place for necessary documentation tracked for reimbursement purposes in compliance with US Treasury Guidelines.

The proposal was the result of feedback from residents, business and community organizations who provided input in a Community Needs Survey regarding the most important issues in Sacramento County related to recovering from the COVID pandemic. Concurrently, County departments were surveyed to identify specific ARPA-related project requests.

Following completion of the surveys, results were analyzed and ranked into priority issue areas based on their level of community importance and eligibility with allowable uses under ARPA. The priority issue areas were ranked in the following order:

1. Housing
2. Homelessness
3. Health
4. Economic Response
5. Essential Workers
6. Infrastructure
7. Education
8. Broadband

For more information, visit the County's American Rescue Plan Act webpage via [www.saccounty.gov](http://www.saccounty.gov).



## We're Hiring!

As the region's second largest employer, Sacramento County has more than 12,000 employees working across 40 departments in fields such as technology, health care, finance, waste management, social services, law enforcement, parks and voter registration. If you're looking for a career with purpose, visit [www.SacCountyJobs.net](http://www.SacCountyJobs.net) to view a list of all the positions currently accepting applications. Subscribe to emails to be alerted when a specific job is available.

## Board Approves Budget Priorities Based on Survey, *Continued*

half have lived in the County for more than 20 years.

### Survey Results

Survey results highlights include:

**County Context:** The top concern the survey respondents want the County to address, by far, is homelessness. Of the respondents identified, 53 percent reported homelessness as the most important problem. The second and third categories, affordable housing/rent and crime/public safety/drugs/violence, were far behind at 13 percent each.

Roads/infrastructure was the fourth category at 8 percent, and COVID-19/pandemic/mandates was fifth at 7 percent.

Homelessness and housing costs are the top issues across racial and ethnic groups, and street and road conditions are especially concerning for residents in District 3.

In homes where a language other than English is spoken, jobs are a slightly bigger concern.

### Resident Priorities for County Budget:

Low levels of homelessness and crime, child abuse prevention and reliable water are seen as key to quality of life. Residents also strongly value affordable housing and disaster preparation.

**The top concern the survey respondents want the County to address, by far, is homelessness.**

Residents were broadly satisfied with waste disposal, clean water, parks and libraries. A majority of residents were dissatisfied with maintenance of County streets and roads.

Fully four in five residents are dissatisfied with the County's efforts to prevent homelessness, and a number of key items

that are more important to quality of life also have lower satisfaction ratings, including affordable housing, mental health services, child abuse prevention, job creation, planning for growth and drug use treatment.

**Allocating the County Budget:** Residents were asked to imagine they are in charge of the Sacramento County budget, and were asked how they would prioritize County spending in six broad areas.

On average, residents allocated more funding to public safety and homelessness than other areas. Residents in Districts 3, 4 and 5 assigned more of their funding to public safety, and white and Latino residents assigned greater shares to public safety as well.

Notably, those with and without ties to homelessness assign about the same amount to that priority.

## Final District Map, *Continued*

Every ten years, following the U.S. Census count, the resulting census data is used to geographically define electoral districts, at all levels of government, through a process called redistricting. Redistricting ensures that each of the electoral district boundaries have about the same number of people and comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Visit Sacramento County's redistricting webpage at [redistricting2021.saccounty.gov](http://redistricting2021.saccounty.gov) for information about redistricting, including the redistricting process, written public testimony, meetings and workshops, public comment, and draft and final maps.

## County's Website Domain Changed to SacCounty.GOV

### It's official, we are SacCounty.gov!

Sacramento County has updated the County's website domain name from SacCounty.net to SacCounty.gov. The public will be able to continue to access the County's websites using SacCounty.net or the new SacCounty.gov domain. For a list of ways to connect with us online, visit the Sacramento County website links below.

**Connect With Us:** [www.saccounty.gov/GetConnected](http://www.saccounty.gov/GetConnected)

**Contact Us:** [www.saccounty.gov/ContactUs](http://www.saccounty.gov/ContactUs)

**Report a Problem:** [www.saccounty.gov/ReportaProblem](http://www.saccounty.gov/ReportaProblem)

